



Small Talk

National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts

Region N2, Winter 2021–22

<http://nameregionn2.org>

From Your Regional Coordinator

It has been a busy Fall and now it's time for Winter Holidays and Winter. Thank heavens we got a little rain out here in N2.

It was good to see many of you who ventured out and attended the Good Sam Show. It was a nice show and so much room in the sales room to shop. I do hope we can have the overseas vendors back next year though. We all missed them. Seems like this Covid thing is never going away. NAME night was quite successful, and I think attendees had a great time working on the "Make 'N Take" workshops. Debbie Young provided little kits for everyone attending Good Sam this year so one of the tables was hosted by Debbie with supplies to put the little house kit together. Deb Laue taught tiny clothespin reindeer, Lynn Hoffman taught lovely Hawaiian print hangings that were perfect for the NAME Day Tiki Bar, and I taught at a table where we made 1/4" ceiling fans. Little goodie bags were given out and we were done by 9:00 pm. We hope to do it again next year so plan to attend on Saturday evening of the show in 2022.

So many activities are coming up in 2022. Plan to join us on New Year's Eve for a party on Zoom. Go to the Create.miniatures.org and find out more about the party. We will be welcoming in the 50th Anniversary year of NAME and much more. In February is the Online Houseparty. I hope to see many of you during that week. In May will be the Portland, OR Houseparty, Come Fly With Me. I sure hope it will be well attended and that we can feel a bit better about getting together.

I am planning to step down as Regional Coordinator for N2 (our NAME region) and we will have a new Regional Coordinator in June. That will be announced in the Spring newsletter.

Watch for activities in the Morgan Hill area. They are always busy there and HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!! See you all in 2022.

Barbara

Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures

A smaller and cozier Good Sam was enjoyed by a fair number of show-goers, in spite of the circumstances regarding pandemic procedure. We thank you for your support and hope to be back at full speed in 2022.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Ferd Sobol, a huge talent and true gentleman. Many of you were aware of his health incident on Friday during show setup. He succumbed in late November due to kidney failure. He and Millie were long time and very popular supporters of our show. Our sympathies to Millie and the family. Ferd will be missed by all who knew him.

Ruth Heisch

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North Central

Margaret Gordus

Our Little Mini Club:

**My Mini Autobiography
by Carlene Brown**

As with most of you reading this article, my love of little things goes back as far as I can remember. My first prized possessions were a play pen, high chair, baby buggy and a little molded baby doll all made from pink plastic, complete with a little piece of cloth for a blanket. My first doll house came on Christmas day when I was five, along with a case of measles sending me to bed when I felt fine and wanted so much to play with the doll house.

As an adult, had wanted a doll house for a long time and I finally received a doll house kit for my birthday one year. After building the Farmhouse style dollhouse, the house needed furniture and so my real journey began--finding miniature stores and going to miniature shows to find just the perfect pieces of furniture. At the time, there were lots of miniature stores and shows, which sadly have disappeared over the years. One of those first shows that I remember was in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, and I was totally in awe. So many wonderful "little" things, it was unbelievable!!

In 1998, at a miniature show in Sacramento, I asked about miniature groups and so was able to find Our Little Mini Club in Paradise, CA. Margaret Gordus took me under her wing and helped me become a "maker" instead of a collector. Over the years, Margaret and I co-chaired two State Days put on by our club, a Southwest building and a Japanese Teahouse—so much fun and enjoyed by all who attended.

My work schedule allowed me summers off and so one summer I discovered Pinterest and with it many ideas for making miniatures. I fell in love

with a Market Stall made by someone in Germany and gave it a try. My OCD kicked in at that point and one became many. I had so many ideas for themes, and kept building. When I attended a Mini Cals workshop in Morgan Hill, I brought several of my market stalls for "show and tell" and ended up selling two of them. Rhona Lee and Karen Laisure encouraged me to sell the stalls at Good Sam and that was the beginning of my little dealership venture.

After the Campfire in Paradise in 2018, I moved to Burney, CA which is even farther north and away from everything, with no nearby clubs or shops. To give me something to do and continue making, I started selling items on Etsy. I have not only kept busy building and selling things, but have made new friends from afar. If you want to check out my Etsy site it is: SomethingSpecialMini.

The miniature world is full of wonderful, amazing people and I have made so many friends in my miniature journey. When the Campfire happened in 2018, the miniature world stepped up in amazing fashion, donating hundreds of dollars worth of gift cards to our club members who had lost their homes. We could never say enough thank you's!!!

Our Little Mini Club is still going strong after the fire, we are spread far and wide but refuse to give up our bond and so meet monthly in a zoom meeting coordinated by Margaret and the NAME office!



Carlene's Creations

North Coastal

State Rep Sharon Ocheltree

Redwood Small World: Is it really December already!?! It sure has snuck up on me. I just got my Thanksgiving decorations put away.

Christa Stressenger hosted our September meeting at her lovely home in Fortuna. She is a most charming hostess and an excellent teacher. We requested that she help us with another wicker

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furniture project. She put kits together for all of us to assemble a simple basket. Good practice for all. The basket is suitable for household items, plants, dog toys, whatever. Great project!

In October Dick and Luci Hanson joined us from Cascade Miniatures in Grants Pass, Oregon. They have taught workshops for us before and we surely look forward to each visit. This trip Luci shared her knowledge on mold making and resin pouring. This was a totally new process for us with many different skills to learn and practice. A whole new world opened up for creating our miniatures. Dick and Luci are such treasures and we appreciate their friendship. They are becoming family.

The workshop was held at Sue Kuhnhausen's home and it was decorated to the max for Halloween. A huge blow-up black cat, with moving head, greeted us as we drove in. On the porch, a skeleton sat in an Adirondack chair by the front door. Hand made, Halloween miniature scenes were displayed throughout the home. She served a creepy lunch for the occasion with bat wings, (blackened chicken wings), a stuffed baked pumpkin of chicken, mushrooms and rice, and a tsunami cake for desert, oozing chocolate gnash and gummy worms. She does love to cook!

Thanksgiving dinner was held at my home for our November meeting with everyone contributing to the menu. It was a special time of way too much delicious food and visiting with friends who have become sisters in our miniature world. Sue lead everyone in a project of putting together little harvest crates and then helping create fall fruits out of Fimo. There were crates of pumpkins, apples and squash. Time consuming but very cute.

At this time of year, I'd just like to express how dear our relationships are with fellow members of our clubs. You are a special people! Merry Christmas to all!

—Sharon Ocheltree



Harvest crates of fruits and vegetables



Susie's witch and boiling caldron

Fresno

State Rep Barbara Fairbanks

Tinker Belles: Well Fresno is still meeting without a meeting place. We have met in members homes for a year now and it has worked out well. Eagerly waiting for the Covid to end and then maybe we have a nice space to have our meetings.

Everyone is working on different projects and scales. And a lot of projects that need finishing. Would you believe I am still working on Pickett Hill? Maybe next newsletter it will be finished.

We will have our Christmas luncheon Dec. 11 at El Rodeo. We have eaten there before and really enjoyed it so we will meet there again. Thanks Glendon for setting it all up.

Wishing all a very Merry Season. We don't have snow here but it sure is cold now.

Think we went straight from summer to winter this year. We seem to be missing Spring and Fall anymore.

—Barbara Fairbanks

No. Nevada, Tahoe

Mary Ann Van Buskirk

Marin, Napa Valley

Open Position

San Francisco, No. Peninsula

Open Position

Sacramento, Central Valley, Sierra Foothills

State Rep Laura Seibert

Itty Bitties: The Itty Bitties Club members have been busy! We started working on Winter/Christmas projects. Kathy Burlingame taught us how to make a tabletop Christmas tree using wire and lycopodium moss, in August. We created the trees using wire and then added the moss to each wire. Projects shown were completed by Ynez Fritsch and Kathy. In September, we learned how to make ribbon roses to decorate a winter hat and muff.

In October, we started on our vignette in a wreath project. A special thanks to Marie Bird and Thuy Means for sharing their ideas on the November/December 2015 Gazette. Most of us were done with the door or the window and then attached it to the backing and the wreath. Kathy used a narrow Victorian bay window and used a different technique for the landing. Ynez used a window and was able to fit a few things, including a

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moose! Deb Laue turned her window into a room box by adding three inches around the window to create a deeper space to add lights, a fireplace and a chair for Santa! And . . .some of us decided to do the vignette with the door. In November, we worked on the snowman, the sign and worked on finishing the wreath. We learned how to use plaster of Paris, glitter snow and Washi tape.

Snowmen and signs made by Debra Taylor and Ynez Fritsch. We will end the year with a get-together hosted by Carolyn Paul. We have started planning our project for 2022.

—Frances Bigler



Itty Bitties' Wreath Projects

Quarter Persuasion: Our Quarter Persuasion club continues to meet by Zoom. We really enjoy it. Besides meeting on our traditional 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:00 am, we also meet every Monday at 11:00 am.

We're really looking forward to the Splintered Fairytales Online Houseparty February 17th–20th, 2022. We all

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registered. Most of us will be attending the Come Fly With Me Portland, Oregon Houseparty May 6th–8th.

It's NAME's 50th anniversary in 2022, with celebrating all year long! There's so much to look forward to!

For projects at our Zoom meetings, we continue to work on whatever we feel like working on.

I'm trying to finish structures to count on my AIM form. Don't forget to mail your AIM forms by January 31st! That's the last day they can be postmarked

—Laura Seibert



Laura's Christmas Ornament

South Bay, Peninsula

Open Position

MiniCals: Our club started holding in person meetings with social distancing and we were able to complete several projects together over the fall months. We had a successful NAME day with the Tiki Hut project, and attendees were delighted with their projects and extra accessories.

We will gather for a holiday celebration and look forward to workshops in January and April in the M&L Morgan Hill location. Our Spring Fling sales event is scheduled for March and we plan on other events in February

and May.

Upcoming Workshops

January 15, 2022. Shabby Chic Door with a Western flavor

April 9, 2022. Patricia Perlhefter's Ladies Notion Display with Hat and Jewelry

Cynthia Howe Workshop in June

For more information about the workshops, contact Ruth Heisch 408 997-1004 or grouchybeartoo@aol.com

—Brenda Hough



Shabby Chic Door



Patricia Perlhefter's Ladies Notion Display with Hat and Jewelry

Through the Looking Glass: Through the Looking Glass is very excited about NAME Day, the Tiki Bar project and co-hosting a Work Day in Morgan Hill with MiniCals. We have been spending the summer months working on table favors of kits and gifts related to the theme.

We were able to return to our usual meeting place this month at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Saratoga and we look forward to many more times of normality.

We also welcomed a new member, Michael Touchi, to our group this summer. A gifted musician, Michael brings a great interest in miniatures and is jumping right in with the Tiki Bar project.

Hoping to join new and old friends on NAME Day!

—Barbara Adams



Juanita Landa's Tiki Bar

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Lori Rodriguez's Tiki Bar



Lori Rodriguez's Tiki Bar



Monya Johnson's Tiki Bar



Nancy Peter's Tiki Bar



Barbara Adams Tiki Bar

Mini Attics: The MiniAttics have been able to get together for in person meetings, which is a treat We have all been working on the tote bag favors for Winter Wonderland, the NAME National in 2022.

Four of our members went to the MiniCals NAME Day for the Tiki Bar. We all had a wonderful time. Most of us were very happy to attend the Good Sam Show, to see others we have not seen in a while, as well as shop. Carol Walls displayed her "Granma's Attic" at Good Sam. Meg Milani gathered miniatures from all of us and put up a mini display of fall, Christmas and flowers in the Redwood City library.

We are all sad as one of your members, Cindy Loman, has moved She is very talented new miniaturist. She completed the Neverwas before she moved. We plan to stay in touch with zoom meetings.

—Carol Walls



Carol's Attic



Cindy's NeverWas

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Library Display in Redwood City

Wee Housers: We finally got together again in person!—after meeting on Zoom during most of the last year or so. Rhona invited us down to Gilroy for a delightful Christmas party. After a wonderful lunch we got down to the best part—our not so “Secret” Santa gift exchange. Every member was all smiles as we opened gifts. Each one was perfect for the recipient.

In Rhona’s words, “We laughed, we complained, we whined, we ate. We ahhed and ohh-ed at each other gifts.” The one downside was that Denise couldn’t be there.

We look forward to more in person meetings in the future.

—**Laura Johnson**



A lantern with birds nesting, by Beth Freeman Kane, who are being carefully monitored by a supposedly sleeping cat lying on the garden bench.

This is a scene from Rhona’s Pat and Noel Thomas Garden Shed that she exhibited this year at the Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures 2021.



Wee Housers Gift Exchange



Moonyeen’s birdhouse. It’s going to be a wonderful addition to a garden scene.



Hydrangea plant made by Laura

Hawaii

State Rep Naomi Losch

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NAME Region N2 Calendar

January 15	MiniCals Workshop—Morgan Hill Shabby Chic Door with a Western Flavor
February 17–20	NAME Online Houseparty Splintered Fairy Tales
March 12	Spring Fling in Morgan Hill
April 9	MiniCals Workshop—Morgan Hill Patricia Perlhefter's Ladies Notion Display with Hat and Jewelry



The poster features a winter theme with a grey background, white snowflakes, and pine branches in the corners. A red cardinal is perched on a branch on the right. The title 'Winter Miniature Show & Sale' is in a large, red, serif font. Below the title are two white boxes with red text. The left box contains the dates, time, and location. The right box contains admission information. At the bottom, there is a line of text for registration.

Winter Miniature Show & Sale

Dates: Jan. 7th-9th
.....
Time: 9am to 4pm
1024 Industrial Way Suite A
Lodi, Ca. 95241

FREE admission
.....
Limited guests 50 per day
MUST PRE-REGISTER

To sign up please email - fjdebbie@aol.com

You must pre-register.
To sign up please email: fjdebbie@aol.com
Include the day you would like to come and
the number of people in your party.

Check the N2 Website

Local mini events may be limited, but there are opportunities to get together and share our enthusiasm for miniatures online! Check out the calendar on our N2 website: nameregionn2.org/events-calendar It's updated with online events, including workshops and sales.

If you know of a miniature related event or have information/photos to share, please contact Carol (namen2regionwebmaster@gmail.com) to add it to the calendar page of the website.

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